

'Ghost busters' issue warning to 'phantom' voters

MalaysiaKini.com

May 1, 2013

By Hafiz Yatim

With four days to polling day, several banners and buntings have been put up near polling centres and places where immigrants are commonly seen to frequent nationwide, warning foreign workers not to vote.

NONEAnything But Umno (ABU) coalition president Haris Ibrahim (right) said such banners have been placed in several states, including Johor, Selangor, the Federal Territories, Perak, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Kedah and Terengganu.

"The banners and buntings are printed in several languages, such as Indonesian, Burmese, Bengali and Urdu.

"They are put up to warn foreigners who may have obtained MyKad and may come out to vote.

"We do not want them to participate in the electoral process as their presence may change the actual outcome," Haris told Malaysiakini.

"They have been placed near polling centres and in areas frequented by foreigners to warn them not to come out to vote.

"We have not received any comments from the Election Commission (EC) on this, but if such banners or buntings are pulled down, our volunteers will put them back up," Haris stressed.

NONESimilar banners have been spotted so far, including several placed in front of SJK (Tamil) Bangsar in Kuala Lumpur.

However, when shown photos of the banners and buntings in front of the school, Haris said ABU was not responsible for putting up these particular ones near the school.

"However, we welcome any efforts to convey the message across," he noted, adding that he does not find what is printed on the banners as threatening, as he likens foreigners voting in the Malaysian election to trespassing or entering a property without consent.

ABU has 'peacefully' warned foreigners not to participate in the local electoral

process by publishing several booklets and pamphlets on the matter.

On another note, election rights group Bersih expressed concern that the existence of phantom voters and electoral fraud are spawning xenophobic and racist attacks against migrant workers.

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd
Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/228679>